

**AGENDA ITEM V E**

**PROGRESS REPORT ON CONDITIONALLY APPROVED PROGRAM**

**LOUISIANA DELTA COMMUNITY COLLEGE**

**A.S. IN NURSING**

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**BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

At its meeting of May 2008, the Board took the following action:

**Conditional approval is granted for the proposed Associate of Science in Nursing program (CIP 51.1601) at Louisiana Delta Community College.**

- 1. The College shall report to the Associate Commissioner for Academic Affairs the successful hiring of 2 additional Nursing faculty. Upon notification of this action, the Associate Commissioner shall authorize program implementation.**
- 2. Beginning June 1, 2009, and on that date annually thereafter until otherwise directed, the College shall submit a progress report to the Associate Commissioner for Academic Affairs documenting progress toward:**
  - a. college SAC/CoC accreditation;**
  - b. program NLN accreditation;**
  - c. hiring of needed faculty;**
  - d. Memoranda of Understanding (MoU) with local facilities for student nurse clinical experiences; and**
  - e. efforts to affect transfer and articulation agreements with ULM's BSN program.**

The staff summary below addresses the College's response to the above Regents' requirements.

**STAFF SUMMARY**

**1. Program Director/Additional Faculty Hires**

A Nursing Program Director was hired in September 2007; unfortunately, this person left Delta in October 2008. On June 18, the staff received notification that the College hired Bonnie Johnson, M.S.N., R.N., as the new Division Chair of Nursing. Ms. Johnson will assume duties as director of the A.S.N. program. Her appointment is effective July 2, 2009. Additionally, the College has hired another full-time nursing faculty member who will begin her appointment effective August 2009.

The College hired a total of four full-time, appropriately qualified faculty, including the two positions required by the Regents during 2008. An administrative assistant was hired in September 2008.

## **2. SACS/CoC Institutional Accreditation**

SACS Candidacy status was awarded to the College in June 2007. A site visit for full accreditation was conducted in October 2008. It is anticipated that full institutional accreditation will be granted at the SACS bi-annual meeting in June 2009.

## **3. NLN Program Accreditation**

It is the College's intent to apply for NLN accreditation as soon as the first class of students have graduated, the first allowable date. Three of the four faculty have recently attended the NLN Accreditation Conference. A consultant has also been hired to assure alignment of program outcomes and course objectives of NLN and the State Board of Nursing, as well as assuring congruency of program assessments and outcomes.

## **4. Clinical Facilities Memorandi**

Agreements with clinical practicum sites are still in process. A template for such memorandi has been developed. Official signing of MOUs await the hiring of a Program Director. Discussions have occurred with ULM's Dean of Nursing concerning coordination of clinical usage.

## **5. Transfer/Articulation with ULM B.S.N. Program**

There are three B.S.N. programs in north Louisiana – Grambling State University, Northwestern State University, and the University of Louisiana-Monroe. The College is working with Deans of all three colleges of nursing to ensure the greatest possible articulation/transfer of A.S.N. courses into all three B.S.N. programs.

## **STAFF ANALYSIS**

The College is making good progress toward the development/implementation of its A.S.N. program in significant areas – hiring of a Program Director, SACS institutional accreditation, NLN program accreditation, and needed additional faculty. Now that a Program Director has been hired, the College needs to move quickly toward resolution of two remaining problematic areas: 1) accessibility to clinical facilities; and 2) transfer/articulation agreements with proximate B.S.N. programs. It is expected that by this time next year, these concerns will have been appropriately addressed.

Accordingly, the staff recommends program implementation beginning Fall 2009. Continued monitoring is still needed, however, as the program continues to evolve.

### ***STAFF RECOMMENDATION***

***The staff recommends that the Academic and Student Affairs Committee receive the June 2009 progress report relative to development of the A.S. program in Nursing at Louisiana Delta Community College and authorize program implementation beginning Fall 2009. A subsequent progress report addressing the following issues shall be due to the Associate Commissioner for Academic Affairs by June 1, 2010:***

- 1) Accessibility to clinical facilities; and***
- 2) Transfer/articulation agreements with proximate B.S.N. programs.***